



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/827,418	04/20/2004	Katsumi Mori	2635-213	2583
23117	7590	05/28/2009	EXAMINER	
NIXON & VANDERHYE, PC 901 NORTH GLEBE ROAD, 11TH FLOOR ARLINGTON, VA 22203				STIMPERT, PHILIP EARL
ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER		
3746				
		MAIL DATE		DELIVERY MODE
		05/28/2009		PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's arguments filed 11 May 2009 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.
2. The examiner maintains that one of ordinary skill in the art is informed by Iwasaki of the utility of notches in connecting members as failsafe devices. In a mechanical sense, the cam of the applicant's invention constitutes a connecting element between the shaft and the plungers, thus breakage of the cam causes a disconnection between the plungers and the shaft. Similarly, a connection between the locked members of Iwasaki et al. is disconnected by breakage of the key (32). Further, Beauchanveau indicates the utility of mechanical failsafes in power trains of fuel pumps specifically, which suggests that those of ordinary skill in the art are aware of the problem of pump seizure and the utility of mechanical failsafes therefor, thus providing motivation for one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the pump of Mori. Accordingly, the examiner maintains that the rejections over Mori, Iwasaki et al., and Bouchanveau are proper.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Philip Stimpert whose telephone number is (571)270-1890. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri 7:30AM-4:00PM, EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Devon Kramer can be reached on (571) 272-7118. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Devon C Kramer/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art
Unit 3746

/P. S./
Examiner, Art Unit 3746
22 May 2009